

## Pray for Vocations.

At this time of year, young and not so young people are making decisions about their future. We pray that some men will consider a vocation to the priesthood, diaconate or religious life.

We are encouraged to pray for vocations regularly.

### A Prayer for Vocations.

Lord Jesus, you have told us that:

‘The harvest is great, but the labourers are few.

Pray, therefore, the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his fields.’ (Lk 10.2).

We ask you, Lord, to send labourers into your fields, which are awaiting holy priests, heroic missionaries, dedicated brothers and sisters.

We pray in particular for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life in this diocese of Waterford and Lismore.

Enkindle in the hearts of your people the grace and courage to hear and answer your call.

May they respond with generosity, freedom and joy.

May their lives serve as a witness to the fact that our deepest joy is to be found in you alone.

Grant that Christian families may encourage and affirm such vocations, and that they may desire to give to your church helpers in proclaiming the Good News to the world of tomorrow. Amen.

### The Memorare (Part of a longer 15<sup>th</sup> century Prayer).

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession, was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence,

I fly unto you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother.

To you do I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful.

O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions,

but in your mercy, hear and answer me.

Amen.



## St. Mary's Parish Dungarvan

August 2022



### August 15<sup>th</sup>: Feast of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven.

The feast commemorates the end of her life on earth Mary was taken by God, body and soul, into heaven.

On the Solemn Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (2020), Pope Francis said that Mary's assumption into Heaven was an infinitely greater achievement than man's first steps on the moon.

**"When man set foot on the moon, he said a phrase that became famous: 'That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.'**

In essence, humanity had reached a historic milestone. But today, in Mary's Assumption into Heaven, we celebrate an infinitely greater achievement. **Our Lady set foot in Heaven** she went there not only in spirit, but with her body as well, with all of herself... **This step of the little Virgin of Nazareth was the giant leap forward of mankind.**

Pope Francis said that in Mary's assumption into Heaven, one sees life's end goal: "not to gain the things here below, which are fleeting, but the homeland, which is above, which is forever."

Pope Francis: Angelus Address, 15/8/2020.

### Masses for the Feast of the Assumption,

**Monday, August 15, 2022.**

**No Vigil Masses on August 14<sup>th</sup> as it is a Sunday.**

**Masses on the 15<sup>th</sup> only.**

**St Mary's:** 11am and 7.30pm on the 15th.

**Ring and Old Parish:** An Rinn: 6pm on the 15th.

**Kilgobinet, Colligan, Kilbrien:** Colligan: 7.30pm on the 15th.

### Prayer to Our Lady of Knock. (Feast Day: 17<sup>th</sup> August)

Our Lady of Knock, Queen of Ireland, you gave hope to your people in a time of distress and comforted them in sorrow. You have inspired countless pilgrims to pray with confidence to your divine Son, remembering His promise, "Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find." Help me to remember that we are all pilgrims on the road to heaven. Fill me with love and concern for my brothers and sisters in Christ, especially those who live with me. Comfort me when I am sick, lonely or depressed. Teach me how to take part ever more reverently at Mass. Give me a greater love of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Pray for me now, and at the hour of my death. Amen.

### Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> August: Feast of Our Lady of Knock.

On Thursday, 21 August 1879, the apparition took place at the gable end of Knock Parish Church. Our Lady was accompanied by St. Joseph, the protector of the Holy Family and St. John the Evangelist/Gospel Writer. To their right was an altar with a cross resting on it and a lamb standing on the altar in front of the cross. This part of the apparition was surrounded by angels. No words were spoken at Knock. No words were necessary. The apparition itself was a powerful message. Mary was with her people at a time of great hardship, drawing attention to her son, Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. The angels remind us of how heaven is joined to earth each time we celebrate Mass as we join with the angels and saints in giving praise to God for his goodness to us. Many of the church's devotions are part of the Knock apparition. Among them, our devotion to the Eucharist, to Mary, the Holy Family, the angels and saints. Our Lady of Knock, pray for us.

#### Why pray?

We must 'pray continually and not lose heart.' Luke 18:1.

Why must we pray?

We must pray, first of all, because we are believers.

Prayer recognises that we come from God, we are of God, and we return to God!

We trust in the one who gave his life for love.

We are Christians and we pray as Christians.

We know that our prayer is Jesus, every one of our prayers starts from Jesus; it is he who prays in us, with us and for us.

The greatest prayer is the Mass, because in the Mass Jesus himself is full present as he renews the Sacrifice of the Cross, but every prayer is valid, especially the Our Father which Jesus himself wished to teach the apostles and all of us.

Saying the words of the Our Father, Jesus created a specific and, at the same time, universal model. Indeed, all that we can and must say to the Father is contained in those seven requests, which we all know by heart. They are so simple that even a child can learn them, but at the same time so profound that one can spend a lifetime meditating on their meaning.

Prayer gives us strength, comfort and courage to see the events of our life in the light of what Jesus has done for us.

**Therefore, do not stop praying! Do not let a day pass without praying a little! Prayer is a duty, but it is also a great joy, because it is a conversation with God through Jesus Christ.**



**Celebrate the Mass every Sunday, and if possible, sometimes during the week as well, every day say prayers in the morning and evening and at other opportune moments!**

(Based on a Prayer of Pope Saint John Paul II, March 14, 1979)

#### Praying the Our Father Differently.

When our faith is weak, Lord, teach us to pray

**Our Father who art in heaven.**

When we are inclined to forget about you, Lord, teach us to pray:

**Hallowed be thy name.**

When we feel pessimistic about our lives and the state of the world, Lord, teach us to pray:

**Thy kingdom come.**

When we have difficult decisions to make, and are tempted to take the easy way out, Lord, teach us to pray:

**Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

When we complain about little upsets and forget the millions of people who are poor and hungry, Lord, teach us to pray:

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

When we are worried about our sins and find it hard to forgive those who sin against us, Lord, teach us to pray:

**Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

When we are troubled by temptation, Lord, teach us to pray:

**And lead us not into temptation.**

When we find it hard to cope, Lord, teach us to pray:

**Deliver us from evil.**

When we are preoccupied with ourselves and our own glory, Lord, teach us to pray:

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

(Flor McCarthy, SDB: New Sunday & Holyday Liturgies, Year C. p [265].)

#### Prayer for Those Waiting for Exam Results.

Lord, give me peace of mind as I wait for the exam results.

Take away any fear, worry or anxiety I may have. I put my faith and trust in you. Amen.

#### Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

This novena will begin on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30pm.